

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a multimedia environment, end-users are provided with the ability to effectively access, manipulate and share one or more multimedia objects, or select portions thereof, independent of the terminal and/or network capabilities that are associated with the terminals employed by each end-user. This may be accomplished, for example, by identifying a set of multimedia data that is stored in a multimedia database that is accessible by each end-user. The set of multimedia data is then adapted in accordance with an information adaptation service and modified in accordance with a transcoder/scalability service. The functions provided by both of these services are based on a number of user preferences and based on a number of terminal and communication (e.g., network) connection capabilities associated with the terminals corresponding to each of the end-users that are to have access to the modified set of multimedia data.

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